

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for use in the storage and transportation of recyclable waste, the apparatus comprising a housing (10) having a bottom (16) for standing on the ground, a rear wall (20), a pair of opposed side walls (22), a handle (26) adjacent the top and rear of the housing, a pair of wheels (28) adjacent the bottom and rear of the housing and arranged such that the housing can be tipped rearwardly using the handle so that the wheels engage the ground, so that the bottom of the housing no longer engages the ground and so that the apparatus can be moved on the wheels using the handle to move it, the housing providing at least one space (48) accessible from the front of the housing, the or each space being arranged to receive at least one recycling box (12) having a base (30), four side walls (32) and an open top, the apparatus having means (14,52,64,86) for supporting the or each recycling box in its space such that the or each recycling box can be slid into the housing from the front and such that when the or each recycling box is in the housing the front-facing side wall(s) of the recycling box(es) substantially close(s) the front of the housing and the recycling boxes are covered.  
5  
10
2. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing provides a plurality of such spaces arranged one above another in the housing.  
15
3. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the supporting means (14,64,86) provides a platform (36,70,90) beneath the or each space onto which the respective recycling box can be slid.  
20
4. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the supporting means provides a pair of runners (52) to either side of the or each space onto which opposed lips (33) of the respective recycling box can be slid.  
25
5. An apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the housing is formed as a moulding (10) providing at least the side walls and a rear wall of the housing, and the supporting means (14,64,86) and wheels are attached to the housing after it has been moulded (Figures 10 to 17).  
25
6. An apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the housing is arranged such that, prior to attachment of the supporting means and wheels, a plurality of identical such housings can be stacked one substantially inside another (Figure 18).  
30
7. An apparatus as claimed in claim 5 or 6, wherein the housing is substantially identical to a housing of a standard wheelie bin except for the omission of at least part of the front wall (18) thereof.

- 13 -

8. An apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the supporting means includes an element (64) that is arranged to be supported at least in part by a front wall of the housing.

9. An apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7, wherein the supporting means includes at least two elements (86) at least one (86b) of which is arranged to be supported at least in part by 5 another (86a) of the elements.

10. An apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, in combination with at least one such recycling box (12).

11. An apparatus as claimed in claim 10 when dependent directly or indirectly on claim 2, wherein there is a plurality of such recycling boxes.

10 12. A method of manufacture of an apparatus as claimed in claim 7, or any of claims 8 to 11 when dependent on claim 7, the method comprising the steps of moulding a housing of a standard wheelie bin (10 – Figure 1), removing at least part of the front wall (18) therefrom to form the housing of the apparatus (10 – Figure 10 or 14), manufacturing the supporting means, and attaching the supporting means to the housing.

15 13. A method of manufacture of an apparatus as claimed in claim 7, or any of claims 8 to 11 when dependent on claim 7, the method comprising the steps of modifying a mould for a housing of a standard wheelie bin so that the mould produces a housing (10 – Figure 10 or 14) substantially identical to a standard wheelie bin except for the omission of at least part of the front wall (18) thereof, moulding such a housing, manufacturing the supporting means, and attaching 20 the supporting means to the housing.

14. A method as claimed in claim 12 or 13, wherein a plurality of such housings are manufactured, the housings are stacked one substantially inside another at a first location, the stacked housings are transported to a second location remote from the first location, the housings are unstacked at the second location, and the supporting means are subsequently attached to the 25 housings.

15. A neighbourhood of residential properties, at least the majority of the properties each being provided with a respective apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1 to 22.

16. A method of collection of recyclable waste from a neighbourhood of residential properties, the method comprising the steps of providing at one time at least some of the 30 properties each with at least one recycling box (12), then collecting recyclable waste from the recycling boxes, providing at a subsequent time those properties each with an apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9 so that the apparatus and existing recycling box(es) at each of

- 14 -

those properties form an apparatus as claimed in claims 10 to 11, and then collecting recyclable waste from the apparatuses.